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Another interesting plant here was a very woolly thistle, which was a puzzler. I sent it to Dr. Watson, who says it is *Cnicus altissimus* Willd., var. *filipendulus* Gr., remarking that it was near *C. undulatus* Gr. The range given for this in the Synoptical Flora is Texas to Colorado. According to that it had strayed a considerable distance from its home.

Another plant was found the same forenoon, which is worth mentioning, namely *Salsola Kali*. It was very abundant, but apparently introduced, probably from the northwest, where, I believe, it is found.

As the Spirit Lake region is pretty well known to any who would be interested in Iowa flora, I will not describe it.

At the south end of Lake Okoboji the beach runs directly to the prairie. Walking back a few rods, I came to a patch of grass which I decided was *Agropyrum violaceum* Lange. But Dr. Vasey, on seeing the specimens, decided differently. He said it was *A. unilaterale* V. & S. *A. violaceum* had been admitted to the Iowa flora on some specimens contributed by Mr. R. I. Cratty, of Armstrong, Emmet county. I wrote to Mr. Cratty, who has contributed largely to the Iowa flora, and he very kindly sent me a specimen of his *A. violaceum*, which seems to be identical with *A. unilaterale*, in which case the former must be expunged from the list of Iowa plants and the latter added.

In speaking of reported Iowa plants, I refer to Prof. J. C. Arthur's "Contributions to the Flora of Iowa."

Iowa City, Iowa.

BRIEFER ARTICLES.

***Nonnea rosea*.**—Escaped from my garden, this has become rather abundant as a weed in the vicinity, and promises to be one of our earliest spring flowers. We have not had severe weather, but the thermometer has been so regularly below freezing point, that only yesterday (March 17), it was high enough to start chickweed and *Draba verna* into bloom. The *Nonnea* is also keeping company. Honey-bees are trying to glean something from all three, though, later in the season they neglect them for better fare.—THOMAS MEEHAN, *Germantown, Pennsylvania*.

***Dicentra stigmas* and stamens.**—When a half-developed flower-bud is examined the six stamens are seen to have their anthers upon a level with the capitate stigma. Soon after this, and before the petal-tips turn down, the anthers have dehisced and the pollen is in contact with the irregular and roughened surface of the swollen tip of the style. This tip is flat, and suggests the part of a watch key which is grasped by thumb and